



SOUTHMINSTER
C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL



Southminster C of E Primary School's Newsletter Friday 6th October 2023

Bible Quote of the Week

Proverbs: Start children off on the way they should go and even when they are old they will not turn from it.



KS2 had its turn to practise a fire drill this week. Once again, the weather was kind to us, so the children were able to evacuate the building quickly in dry, sunny conditions. We all know the quickest and safest route out of the building from our classrooms and where to line up for our name checks. Great job, everybody.

EYFS



Our Reception Class children have been learning about pumpkins, the sound p and all things Autumn this week! Each day, the children grow in confidence and make the best use of their wonderful learning environment, inside and outside.

KS1

This week, KS1 investigated to find the best material to build a castle. The children built houses with straw, sticks and bricks and then blew their constructions down, linking their Science learning with prior learning about traditional tales. Which do you think the children found was the best material to use?



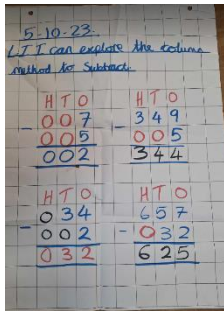
KS2

In Mindfulness Club, children made posters about what mindfulness means to them. They talked about different colours and about how these reflected their emotions.





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Lower KS2 children have been learning how to subtract using their mental maths skills and the column method. The children learnt about place holders and how to exchange.

Maintaining regular practice of number facts such as times tables will help the children to complete arithmetic tasks quickly and confidently.

Years 5 and 6 have continued their reading of the story *Goodnight, Mr. Tom* and have explored new vocabulary. The children used the context of the text and dictionaries to find the meanings of words and they tried to empathise with the characters, imagining how it might feel to be in their place. When I was in the classes, I was pleased to see many children keen to read aloud and to ask questions about what they were reading.

Reminders

Harvest Donations

This year, we will be holding our Harvest Assembly at the Church on Tuesday 17th October, with EYFS children holding their own celebration in class. Non-perishable food donations can be sent into school with your child from Monday 9th October and will be taken to the Dengie Food Pantry.

Secondary Schools Applications

The new secondary school admission round opened on Tuesday 12th September 2023 for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2024.

The statutory national closing date for applications is 31st October 2023.

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions 99% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

All of the application information is available on the website above. The website also has a copy of the Secondary Education in Essex 2024-25 booklet which contains details of all secondary school admission policies.

I hope that you have all enjoyed an extra day off this week and come back to school with batteries recharged on Monday.

Kind regards,

Mrs. Woods and all the staff at Southminster C of E Primary School